



For the Proprietor of
HONGKONG TELEGRAPH
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The Hongkong Telegraph

Today's Weather: Light northerly wind becoming east at times. Cloudy with a little light rain locally.
Noon Observations: Barometric pressure, 1022.5 mbs., 29.23 in. Temperature, 64 deg. F. Dew point, 54 deg. F. Relative humidity, 71%. Wind direction, North. Wind force, 1 knot. Low water: 3 ft. 1 in. at 7.45 p.m. High water: 4 ft. 2 in. at 12.48 a.m. (Friday).

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VOL. V NO. 45

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 23, 1950.

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PEASANT GOES BERSERK

Kills Three, Wounds 23 Others

Ancona, Feb. 22.—Battle-equipped police tonight ordered terror-stricken inhabitants of the villages of Montoro and Filottrano to keep within doors while they scoured the surrounding woods for a 23-year-old peasant who has killed three people and wounded 23 others in an orgy of wild shooting.

Villagers barricaded themselves in their houses as 50 Carabinieri, aided by volunteer peasants with hunting rifles, combed the countryside for the maniac. Cattle Lillini, believed to be armed with a revolver and a shotgun and ready to sell his life dearly.

Lillini burst into the house of his fiancée, 17-year-old Maria Mammolli, last night, killed her with his shots at point-blank range, then rushed into the streets of Filottrano, firing at random.

Two neighbours tried to stop him. Lillini shot them dead.

SHOOT AT ANYONE

He fired two more shots at Maria's mother and seven-year-old brother, Franco, as they fled from the house in panic. Both fell in the street, seriously wounded.

For five hours Lillini roamed wildly through the streets, shooting at anyone who ventured out of doors or who plucked up courage to peer out of the shutters of their houses.

Three Carabinieri tried to arrest him. He picked them off one by one and left them gravely wounded in the ditch.

As dawn broke, Lillini escaped into the woods between Filottrano and Montoro, about 15 miles from Ancona, taking a supply of ammunition with him.

Behind him he left three dead and 23 wounded.

Early today Lillini plastered up a crude manifesto in the village street declaring: "I am forced to do this. I am sorry the innocent suffer but I cannot help it."

Since then there has been silence, but the police believe that he is still alive and entrenched in the woods ready to hold out to the last bullet.—Reuter.

Special General Election Issues

Hongkong is expected to receive the early General Election results during tomorrow morning and afternoon, and the Hongkong Telegraph, in consequence, will produce two editions tomorrow in order to provide the public with the quickest possible information on this, one of the most vital elections in the history of Britain.

It is planned to have the first edition on the streets at 11.30 a.m., and the second and final edition not later than 3.30 p.m. It is hoped to give a substantial number of results, with details of the voting, as well as an expert analysis of the state of the parties as the preparative returns are received.

Death Of Giant Panda

London, Feb. 22.—Lien Ho, the London Zoo's only giant panda, died on Wednesday.

Sympathy and co-operation from all over England failed to save the roly-poly native of western China who became ill just after Christmas.

Bamboo shoots showered on the zoo after a radio appeal on December 27 for Lien Ho's favourite food. She rallied for a time, nibbled at the fresh shoots and submitted reluctantly to injections of Vitamin B concentrate.

But Lien Ho, in spite of the attention of several animal experts, failed to regain the playfulness which made her a favourite of the zoo. She died from pneumonia, the Zoo's spokesman said.

The Chinese Nationalist government had to contribute £20 towards Lien Ho's medical expenses.

The five-year-old panda was presented to London in 1946 by the then governor of Szechuan Province. Since this west China area is now in Communist hands, Zoo officials said they did not expect to replace Lien Ho at least for some years.—Associated Press.

The General Election: Eleventh-Hour Round-Up

PARTIES' CONFIDENCE GIVES WAY TO HOPE

Tories Say Labour Are Despondent

London, Feb. 22.—The headquarters of the main parties tonight hummed with excitement or the eve before what has been described as the most unpredictable Election contest of the century.

The general prediction is that whatever Party wins will have only a narrow majority, possibly relying for votes in the 625-seat House of Commons on "the third force"—the Liberal Party.

The attitude of both the two main parties—Labour and Conservative—was tonight more of hope than of confidence.

Polling will open at most places in England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland at 7 o'clock in the morning and close 14 hours later when counting will begin immediately in about 266 industrial and urban constituencies. The first batch of results are expected over a four-hour spell from just before midnight.

By dawn on Friday the British people may have a fair idea of what sort of Government they will have for the next five years as the core of Labour strength lies in these areas.

The workers of London, Birmingham, Manchester, Glasgow and other big cities were largely responsible for the Labour landslide in the last Election.

To be sure of victory the Government Party must retain at least two out of every three of these seats. Anything less than that for Labour might presage defeat.

Mr Winston Churchill, in a call to right-wingers, today exhorted "all who have the lasting welfare of Britain and the Empire at heart to give a sincere and effective vote for the Conservatives, Unionists and

National Liberal candidates in tomorrow's momentous Election.

Thus alone can we regain our position in the world, preserve our freedom and revive the prosperity and true progress of a British nation," he declared.

Labour headquarters were less ebullient than their opponents, but declared that the Government Party would win.

Applauding the campaign was described as the only threat to a Left-wing victory.

The Liberals, who have practically no chance of winning the Election, reported that their campaign was "making a tremendous impact."

The Prime Minister Mr Clement Attlee, spent the last campaign day chatting with housewives, artisans and truck drivers in his East London Walthamstow constituency. He plans to learn the nation's verdict from a "licker" machine at No 10 Downing Street, his official residence.

Mr Churchill has had a teleprinter machine installed in his home in London, to study the results of his three weeks' talking marathon.

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The Liberals' group of five Labour Independents—all expelled from the Labour Party, and again standing—may be reduced, but three of the quietest vote of 302,454 and the "National" 142,000 vote swelled the Right-wing total. Orthodox Liberals polled 2,239,454 votes.

The Tories claim a turnover of millions of votes in their favour in by-elections since 1945. But they do not forget that the Labour Party is still the only Government in British history which has not lost a single seat which it won or held at the General Election.

The Election will cost the taxpayer about £200,000. This includes all official expenses, but not the electioneering expenses of candidates, which altogether may amount to £4,000,000.—Reuter.

LESS EBULLIENT

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BIGGER ELECTORATE

There were 25,000,000 voters in the 1945 Election, when the electorate was 1,500,000 smaller than now. The general expectation is that there will be a much heavier poll tomorrow, and that the verdict may be vitally influenced by 5,000,000 young electors who have not voted before.

In 1945, Labour captured 11,992,292 votes, the Conservatives 8,665,586 votes, and called "National" Liberals 759,063 votes. The United Nations vote of 302,454 and the "National" 142,000 vote swelled the Right-wing total. Orthodox Liberals polled 2,239,454 votes.

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Deserters from the Dutch Colonial Army (KNIL), now of Capt. "Turk" Westerling's army of the Heavenly Host with two of their victims whom they shot during their attack on this Indonesian town. The two men were riding bicycles at the time of the shooting.—London Express Service.

Peking Radio Calls For A S.E. Asia Revolution

OFFICIAL WASHINGTON REACTION

Washington, Feb. 22.—American officials and foreign diplomatic sources said today that they believed the Chinese Communist government at the instigation of the Soviet Union, is opening an intensified campaign to foment disorder and unrest throughout Southeast Asia.

That was the general interpretation in official and diplomatic quarters of Peking radio broadcast calling upon the peoples of Southeast Asia to undertake a three-point plan to rid themselves of their present rulers.

Airlines Dispute Decision

Judgment Against Plaintiffs

Holding that the doctrine of sovereign immunity operates to prevent the Court from entertaining an application to appoint a receiver, the Chief Justice, Sir Leslie Gibson, in the Supreme Court this morning dismissed with costs, an application brought by Civil Air Transport Incorporated against Major-General Camille Lee Chennault and Mr Whiting and members of the CNAC (third parties).

His Lordship said that there were two other reasons why the application must fail. The first reason was that all proper parties were not before the Court and the second reason was that the plaintiff corporation had not established a sufficiently strong case.

"As regards the first reason, I have held that the assets are in the possession of the Central People's Government," said Sir Leslie. "If I am wrong in this, then in my opinion they are clearly in the possession of the corporation. Neither the Central People's Government nor the corporation is a party to these proceedings or has consented to the appointment of a receiver."

NO DISPUTE

His Lordship went on to say that the truth of the matter was that there was no dispute between the plaintiffs and the defendants as to the right to possession of the assets. The real dispute is between the plaintiffs and the defendants on the one hand, and the Central People's Government and CNAC on the other hand. The third parties are the servants either of the Central

The plan called for: 1. Armed struggle; 2. Co-operation with the Soviet Union and 3. Working class alliance with peasant masses.

Officials here saw significance in the fact that the Peking appeal was broadcast just as the Chinese Communist leader, Mao Tse-tung, returned from Moscow where he negotiated a Sino-Soviet alliance.

It was believed here that Mao had been given the "go ahead" signal by the Kremlin to spearhead a Communist push to weaken the stability of the existing governments in Southeast Asia.

NEW OFFENSIVE

Officials here thought that the new propaganda offensive which this broadcast appeared to open was directed not only to the peoples of Malaya and Indo-China, which are under complete or partial foreign influence, but to countries such as Siam, Burma and Indochina where the Communists are attempting to overthrow the native governments which already are entirely free of foreign control.

Observers said this Peking appeal was the first overt Chinese Communist call for a revolution in Southeast Asia. It came at a time when officials regard as a critical juncture in affairs in that area.

American officials hoping for the success of the Viet Nam Government of Bao Dai in Indo-China said "for the first time they had definite evidence that the Chinese Communists are supplying arms to Ho Chi Minh's disaffected Communist followers in Indo-China, who are fighting against Bao Dai's regime."

There was the belief in official quarters that the heightened propaganda campaign would be accompanied also by Chinese Communist efforts to help their Communist comrades in Southeast Asia in a more material manner now that Mao Tse-tung's forces control all of the Chinese mainland.

TROUBLE POTENTIAL

Officials here, in addition to their concern for Indo-China, are attentive to situations in Siam and Burma.

Westerling Raid

PREMIER YEN ON THE CHINA WAR

\$6 Million Needed To Invade Mainland

Taipei, Feb. 22.—Premier Yen Hsi-shan told the United Press today that for US\$6,000,000 cash the Nationalist Government could equip enough additional men to mount a counter-offensive against the Communists on the mainland.

The Premier said there are 600,000 fully trained crack troops available from Chusan Islands through Formosa, Kinmen, Hainan and other islands. He said that with 400,000 more which could be mobilized at a \$15 per man stage could set to take the mainland back from the Communists.

The Premier said, "But moral support of the American people is as urgently needed as material assistance. It is just as important to the Chinese people and soldiers as guns and bullets."

Premier Yen again sounded a warning to the Americans. "If Formosa is lost to Communism the time will come when the Americans will have to shed their blood in defence of democracy against Communism. The Communists are never satisfied. They will keep coming as long as anybody lets them crush and trample the decent way of life."

MAINTAINS SILENCE

He declined to discuss his own position or the tactical issues of the government, particularly Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek's possible return to the Presidency or Li Tsung-jen's position as absent acting president.

The Premier has several times before made known that he would resign. But his resignation can be accepted only by the President and approved by the Legislative Yuan. The Premier did not talk like an official planning to bow out of public life.

Asked to comment on the recent Moscow agreements, he said he has not heard information of secret protocols but said there is certain to be some. The Premier said he learned from intelligence reports today that the Communists with Soviet assistance established a gigantic supply base in Kalgan province. He said it is located in Changpei district. He said the civilians were cleared out for many miles around. Immense stores of supplies were stored and more were moving in from Mongolia, he said.

The Premier continued that three air bases are being built with Russian aid—Paotow in Suiyuen province, Lanchow in Kansu and Eastern Sinkiang near Kansu province.—United Press.

Chaplin, Greatest Film Star Of The Half Century

Hollywood, Feb. 22.—A poll to find the greatest film star of the half-century placed Charles Chaplin as the best actor, the trade publication, Daily Variety, which conducted the poll, announced today.

First and second in the best actress section were the Swedish stars, Greta Garbo and Ingrid Bergman.

Ronald Colman and Sir Laurence Olivier were joint runners-up to Chaplin. The film "The Great Dictator" which starred Chaplin and Sir Laurence Olivier's wife, Vivienne Leigh, was named the best film ever made. "Birth of a Nation" and "The Best Years of Our Lives" were second and third.

More than 201 film people who have been in the business for 25 years or more were asked to name their favourite film, actor, actress, director and producer of silent pictures and then their favourites in talking films. There was also overall voting taking place in both cases.

Sponsor Tracy was fourth in the best actor class. In the best actress category, Betty Davis and Olivia de Havilland tied for third place.

D. W. Griffith was named the best director and Irving Thalberg the best producer. Cecil B. de Mille was second and William Wyler third in the best director category. Darryl F. Zanuck was second and Samuel Goldwyn third in the producer section.

One of the greatest of the silent films, the poll decided, was the Griffith masterpiece, "Birth of a Nation." "Big Parade" and "The Kid" were second and third.

Charles Chaplin was the best silent film actor, followed by Rudolph Valentino and Emil Jannings. Greta Garbo was the No. 1 silent film actress, with Gloria Swanson and Lillian Gish second and third.—Reuter.

EDITORIAL

Repayment Of Loans

THE Unofficials will not be blamed for championing the cause of those Hongkong British subjects who have now been called upon to repay the advances made to them by the British consulate in Macao during the Pacific war, but whether the motion as presented by Sir Man-kam Lo and Mr C. E. Terry was wisely phrased is a matter of some doubt. On purely sentimental ground everybody will sympathise with those families existing on anything but large salaries suddenly being presented with bills that in some cases run into thousands of dollars; they see their already precarious economic position in danger of becoming completely untenable. Honest endeavour to repay would literally bankrupt many of the debtors. On the other hand there can be no denial that these debts were incurred with the full consciousness that in due course repayment would be requested. The legal and moral obligation of the debtors cannot be denied. There is truth in the argument that many of these people carried out useful work in Macao for the British cause, but it is not so easy to accept the contention that because of this they are entitled to be released of loan obligations offered and received in full recognition that they were repayable debts. On the other hand, Sir Man-kam Lo has a powerful and logical argument when he points to the utter impracticability of Government's proposals to collect where collection is possible and to write off where circumstances do not permit of the debts being honoured. He is correct when he criticises this as discrimination and he is equally feasible when he asks whether it is possible for the merits of every case to receive individual study. No apparent machinery is available, nor does it seem desirable, to apply differential treatment in a manner that will be

scrupulously fair. Yesterday Government and the movers of the resolution reached a compromise which does not appeal as being entirely satisfactory. Mr Follows proposed the creation of a special committee, to include Unofficial representation, which would inquire into every case where requests were made either for review of the debt or its write-off because of inability to pay. As the Financial Secretary had to insist, this would mean that any one wishing to have his case considered by the committee would have to be prepared to give full details of their income, supported by satisfactory evidence, such as a certificate from their employers. This is nothing less than a Means Test which was once applied to unemployment benefits in Britain and had a perniciously demoralising effect on the recipients. A distasteful task would be thrown on the shoulders of the committee and it would probably find it difficult to avoid the feeling that whatever its decisions, they would be regarded by sections of the community as biased and discriminatory. A more popular gesture from Government might have been its willingness to submit to the Foreign Office the majority sentiments which prevail concerning this subject, emphasising the supreme difficulties of equitable collection, and suggesting that in the interests of common unity at this time, the Imperial Government could regard the loans as part of general war expenditure and accordingly write them off. If the Foreign Office refused to consider any such concession, Mr Follows' proposal could then be put into effect. The Hongkong government is only a collecting agent in this matter and is fully entitled to place a sympathetic plea on behalf of the debtors before the creditors.

"BACK TO AUSTRALIA" YEAR FOR FORMER GIs

By George McCadden

Sydney, Feb. 22.—A move has been started to make 1952 "Back to Australia" year for American ex-Servicemen and their wives, although the country has an acute hotel and general housing shortage. Observers agree that the shortage may not be overcome for years at the nation's current construction pace. No major hotel has been built in Australia in 10 years.

Even in Melbourne, site of the 1956 Olympic Games, no new hotels are yet under construction. This is a country where the speed of building is much slower in comparison with the United States and some others.

Conservative critics blame two major factors: Communist penetration of building trades, coal mining and several other key unions; and what they saw was untimely introduction of the 40-hour work week in 1947.

COMMUNISM AN ISSUE

The Menzies-Fadden government is pledged to seek legislation to outlaw the Communist party and kick it out of union offices.

The critics say more coal must be produced before Australia's steel industry can increase production, now at about 75 percent of pre-war capacity. Communists dominate the national executive of the mining union, but have lost ground recently in local and regional councils.

Further complicating hotel congestion is the fact that Australia has no "motel" or tourist cabin court industry common in the United States and Canada, to augment city hotels.

In many areas in Australia, building regulations are far more exacting than in general rule in America.

In Sydney, most shires or councils forbid frame construction and usually insist on brick, cement or some other fireproof material for walls.

Tiles are usually required for roofs. They defend these regulations on the ground that Australia must import much of her soft wood for lumber and that their regulations simplify fire-fighting problems.

Tourist experts, who admit that the hotel shortage handicaps a dollar-earning tourist traffic, are hopeful, however, that the need for dollars will expedite a solution.—United Press.

Mussolini's Word Is Still Law

The word of a Mussolini is still law in a Paris luxury hotel.

The Mussolini is Edda Ciano, daughter of the late Duce and widow of former Italian Foreign Minister, Count Ciano.

When she arrived at the Prince of Wales Hotel, she told the manager she didn't want to be disturbed by "vulgar nobodies."

The hotel has gone to remarkable lengths to obey her wishes.

Visitors who want to use the lift are screened.

It has been suggested that her insistence on privacy is due to the Italian authorities granting her a visa only on condition that she remain silent.

Only once has she unbent. This was when she saw her mother's book, "My Life With Mussolini," on a bookshelf.

She asked: "How is this selling?" The bookseller, not recognizing her, said: "Very badly." Edda put down the book and walked away.

WAR FORTUNE SCANDAL HITS BELGIUM

A financial and political scandal of top dimensions has broken out in Belgium. It follows the arrest, hitherto kept secret, of two directors of two of Belgium's leading banks.

The arrests were made after attempts by a Flemish collaborator, at present on bail, to dispose of bonds acquired illegally during the German occupation.

The scandal concerns attempts to contravene a Government regulation, made in 1944, to the effect that all stocks and shares held by Belgians should be declared, and be temporarily "frozen."

The regulation was an attempt to check on fortunes acquired by collaborators during the war.

Most of the big fortunes remained undeclared.

Now that it is possible, for the first time since the war, to receive compensation on stocks acquired during the war and declared in 1944 many Belgians with undeclared fortunes are attempting to receive compensation with the aid of false bank declarations.

SEX QUIZ TRICK

A man posing as an assistant to Dr. Kinsey has been asking Washington women about their sexual habits.

Dr. A. C. Kinsey, author of the best-selling "Sexual Behaviour of the American Male," is now working on a similar book about women.

The faker rang the women on the phone and asked most intimate questions.

Many women answered the questions.

One woman told newspapers that she was very worried because "that man is walking around knowing things about me I've never dared tell my husband."

Attacks Tonsils Craze

A leading London surgeon has attacked "excessive" removal of children's tonsils, which he called "not surgery but mutilation."

He is T. B. Layton, former surgeon in charge of Guy's Hospital throat and ear department.

He wrote in the Journal of Medical World, that the operation "has gone beyond the stage of discussion between patient and doctor."

"By it, surgery has become a social problem. We must see it doesn't become a social scourge," Layton said that of 1,500 children under five years old, 50 percent had their tonsils removed.

HASTY DECISIONS

"Is it right that one of every two born into this world should have their tonsils out before the age of five?" he said.

There were too many hasty decisions that tonsils were "enlarged," he added.

"This word had become part of the daily chatter of the unthinking herd in the medical profession. It has done much harm and led to many deaths."

Some other doctors agreed that surgeons carried out more tonsil operations than were absolutely essential.

One doctor said the percentage of children who had had tonsils removed was probably smaller in other countries than it was in England.

Fingertip 'Radio' Deaf Aid

A new device to enable deaf people to "hear" with their finger-tips has been invented by an American mathematician.

It has also been used in helping deaf-mutes to learn to talk. The apparatus picks up sounds and transforms them into minute electrical impulses at the finger-tips.

These impulses are transmitted along the nerves to the brain in a kind of code which the deaf, after training, can translate into sounds.

The inventor, Dr. Norbert Wiener, told the American Association for the Advancement of Science today the device has already given "hearing" experience to the totally deaf.

The apparatus, with an electrode on each finger, is bulky, but will eventually be incorporated in a glove.

Crime Is Rich Industry

THE US underworld is now a billion-dollar industry. This was stated by Chicago Crime Commission Director, Virgie Peterson.

Speaking to a mayors' conference, Peterson said there was a working alliance between the underworlds of various cities. They exercised their influence in the collection of judges, district leaders and police chiefs.

Abbey Theatre To Be Televised

By DERRY MORAN

Americans soon will be able to sit in their own homes and see Dublin's famous Abbey Theatre in action. The Abbey, described as "the best little theatre in the world," will be televised into American homes under a programme devised by Abbey personnel and a British film company.

The Abbey television programme will be rated "must see" in many Hollywood homes, where actors and actresses now in the front rank of the film world will look back on their days in the legitimate theatre.

Among Abbey players now top-liners in Hollywood are Barry Fitzgerald, Sarah Allgood, Maureen O'Hara, Arthur Shields and many others whose names have become world-renowned since they stood on the Abbey's unpretentious boards.

APPEAL TO IRISH

But the Abbey will have its greatest appeal for Irish-Americans, many of whom will gather around their television screens to see a bit of the "Old Country" transported across the ocean.

The Abbey's plays have been described as "more Irish than the Irish themselves," with lonely mountain cabins and desolate farmsteads loaded with age-old superstitions and quaint characters.

The Abbey is one of the most unpretentious theatres in the world, but the quality of its productions and the art of its members have made it one of the best known.

Situated on a side street off the river front, with no blazing lights and little in the way of luxury to draw patrons, the

Abbey gives pure theatre and depends on the quality of its productions and its casts to sell.

The opening move of the TV programme will be the filming in London of Lady Gregory's "The Workhouse Ward," which has many times filled the Abbey with laughter and is known all over Ireland.

WELSHMAN BACK OF IT

Using the latest techniques of film and television, the play will be "canned" at the London studios of Associated British Pathé, sponsors of the project to bring the Irish stage into the homes of America.

Organiser of the scheme is a Welshman, Howard Thomas, founder of the BBC's "Brains Trust," which has become world renowned since Thomas first thought of letting the man in the street put his problems to the nation's intelligentsia and hear their unarched solutions and arguments.

Thomas and his fellow workers regard this as only an initial invasion of the American television market, and it is considered certain that the experiment will be followed by a series of full-cast Abbey plays.

Tentative arrangements are being made for some 10 to 14 plays to be filmed either in Dublin or in London, for televising in the United States.

Canada is regarded as another potential market for such material.—United Press.

NEWS IN PICTURES



MEASURING UP—A judge in the competition to find the prettiest legs in Paris gets closer to his work in order to obtain the best results. Twenty-one girls with gorgeous limbs gathered to compete for the annual prize. Simone Lafont, a 25-year-old Paris telephone operator, was picked as the winner.



THE ONLY ONE—Starlet Piper Laurie clenches a diploma in her hand following her graduation from a movie studio's high school in Hollywood.



TWICE A YEAR—Archbishop Ricardo Pittini, Primate of the West Indies, is about to insert a golden key in the sarcophagus which contains the bones of Christopher Columbus at Ciudad Trujillo, in the Dominican Republic. The ritual is observed twice a year to verify the presence of the Dominican Republic's greatest historical treasure, and four keys, each held by separate persons, are required.

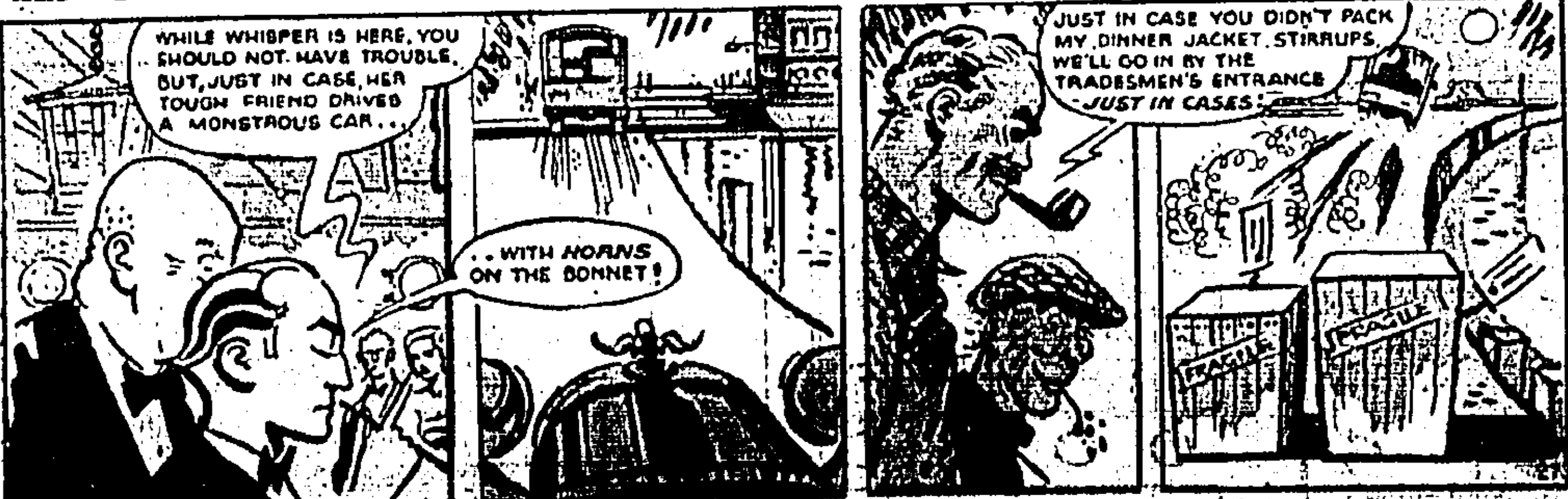


WHOOOPS!—Only that tree saved the passengers from injury when the bus skidded and crashed through a bridge rail on the highway near Schenectady, New York. The accident was one of several that happened recently on icy, northern New York roads.



READY FOR BATTLE—Chinese Nationalist troops train near Taipei, Formosa, for the defence of that last stronghold of the Kuomintang. Raw recruits and veterans of campaigns against Chinese Communist forces on the mainland make up the "last-ditch army" which will meet any Red attack on the island.

K. O. CANNON The Riddle of the Red Domino



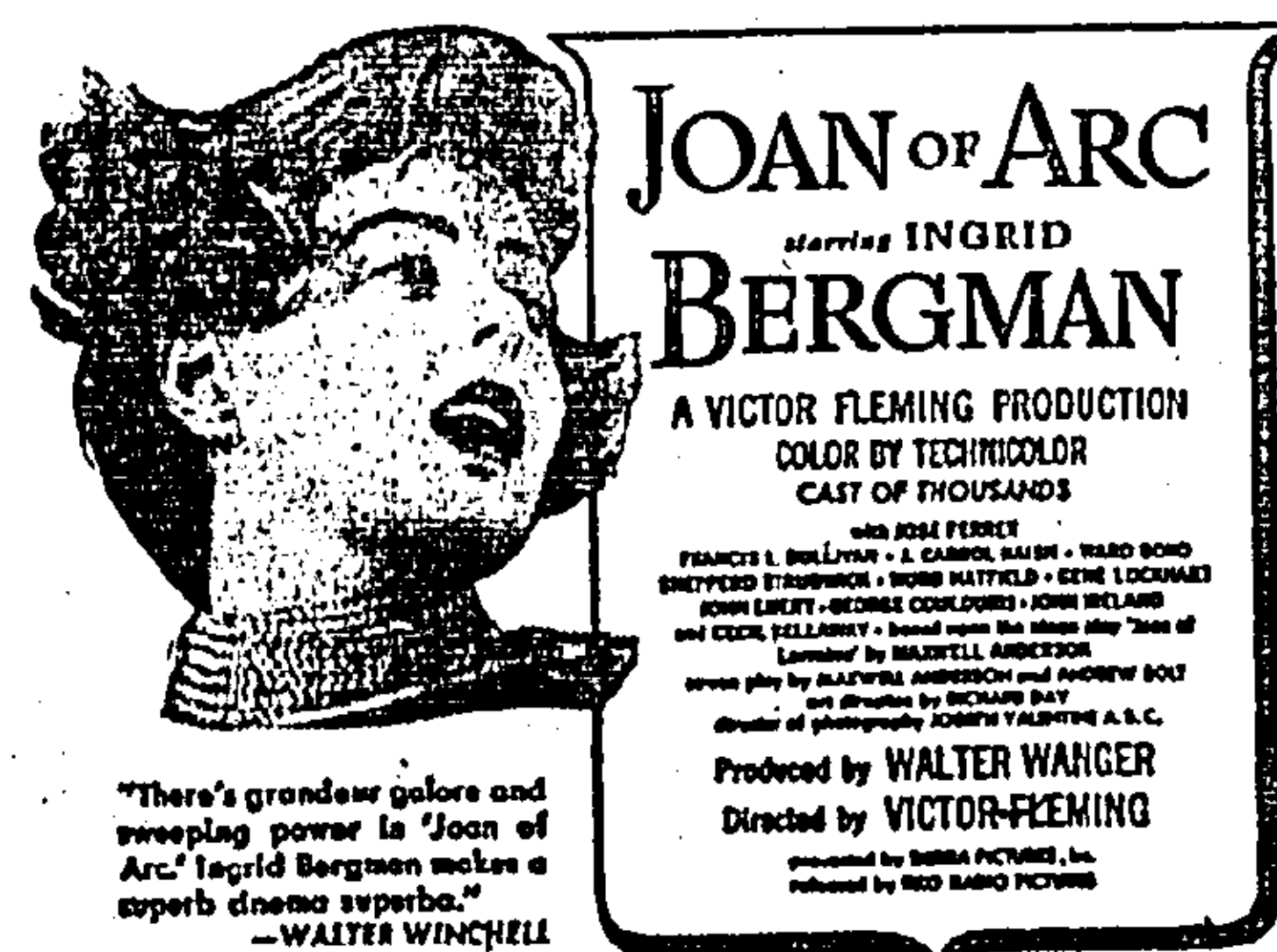
ROXY BROADWAY

FINAL SHOWING TO-DAY
4 SHOWS AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

COMMENCING TO-MORROW

Mr. Belvedere Goes To College
with TOM DRAKE · ALAN YOUNG
Directed by ELLIOTT NUGENT · SAMUEL G. ENGEL

BOOKINGS NOW OPEN!

FIVE SHOWS DAILY
KING'S
FIVE SHOWS DAILYPlease Note The Change of Time
AT 11.30 A.M., 2.00, 4.45, 7.15 & 9.45 P.M.YOU OWE IT TO YOURSELF TO SEE "JOAN OF ARC."
THE KIND OF PICTURE THAT COMES ONCE IN A LIFETIME.

PLEASE BOOK YOUR SEATS EARLY

DAVID TEMPLE ROBERTS
analyses the basic considerations
that will influence the British voter
when he goes to the polls today

London, Feb. 15. AMERICANS are disappointed in Britain's way of conducting a general election. It is the orderliness, the quiet and good manners of it all, that is astonishing them, so a New York correspondent states.

That is understandable, for a presidential election, seen at this distance, is an astonishing performance. But, underneath this calm, what are the real issues on which the voter will decide when he makes his mark on Thursday? And what are the points being made in electioneering in the final two weeks before the election that will influence him? There are two different questions and it will need

The Cripps programme for weathering the storm when the Marshall Plan ends is mainly "the same as before, only more so." The Labour Government claims, with justice, a rising production—in spite of one setback—and a generally rising export trade, excepting for a few months early last year. Cripps argues that the Tory alternative would do nothing to raise exports; that it would aggravate labour troubles. The Government planners insist that capital expenditure that Conservatives would like to cut is essential as a long-term measure. They admit it would be easy to make Britain superficially prosperous with quantities of food at higher prices—and unreasoned doubts that this will lift the controls that bear mainly on the well-to-do would be to invite expenditure that would make the dollar gap wider, rather than narrower.

Hidden behind these two alternatives are two very important points that neither Labour nor Conservative platform

Hidden Issues In The General Election

two different articles to answer the questions. The reason for this is that the majority of people voting have made up their minds about the main issues already. Those who have not decided are the target for electioneering—probably one voter in ten. And all parties assume that the way to catch the larger part of this "floating vote" is to raise vivid issues that will stir the apathetic out of their indecision.

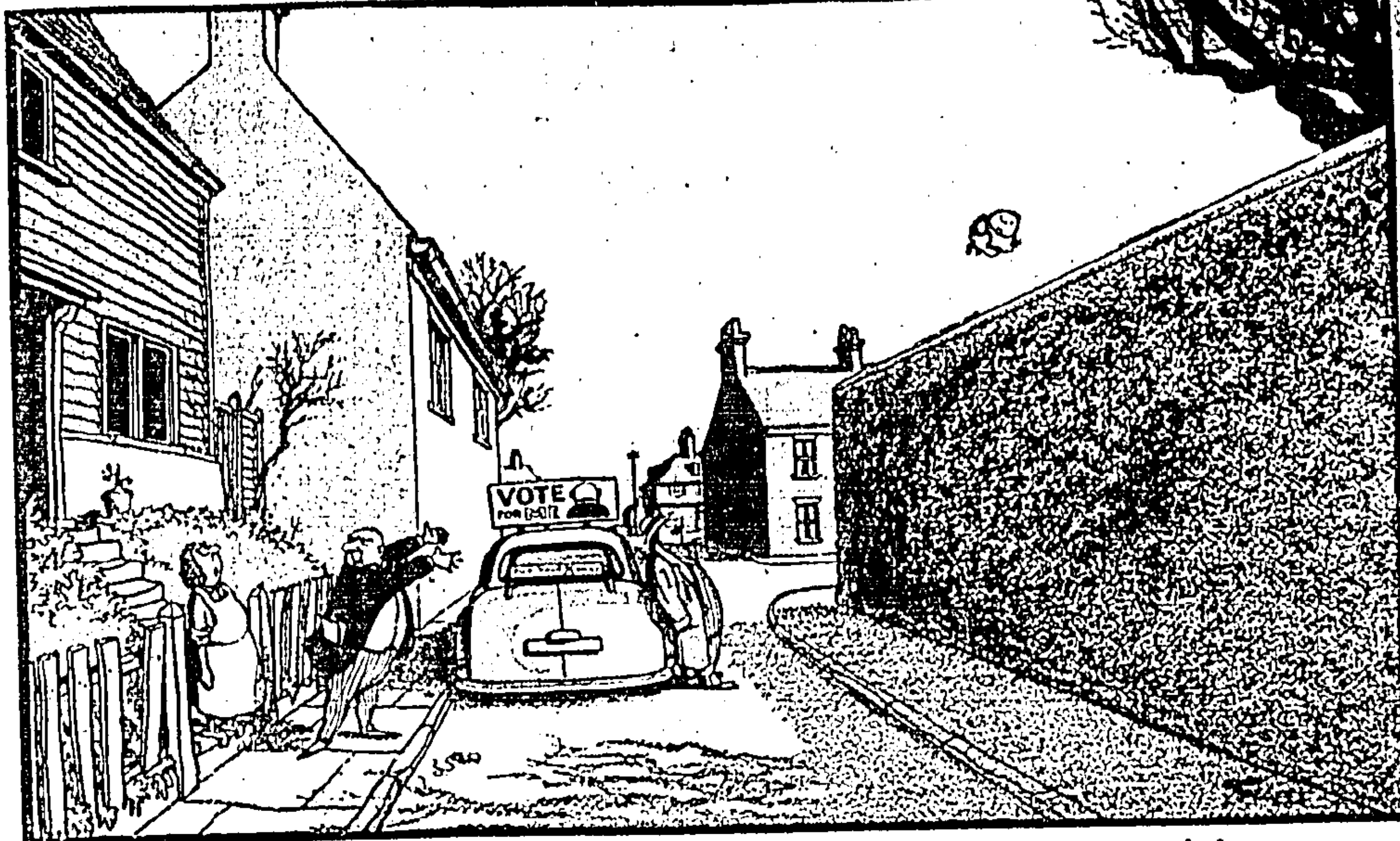
To clear the air it must first be emphasized that this election is not the taking of a decision between slavery and freedom, between regimentation and enterprise, between vitality and depression. Labour supporters, for the most part, do not believe that putting the Conservatives in power would mean subsidies off food, higher prices, lower taxation for the rich, unemployment for the poor—as they are told. Nor do most Conservatives believe that after a Labour victory Parliament would be packed up, forced labour would be introduced, commissars would take over and property be seized by the state. No, the issues being decided are much more subtle than that.

Two Arguments

THE hidden Labour warning, or inevitable Labour threat, is that a Conservative Government might mean the end of the welfare state. The programme it can expect strikes, unrest, marches, demands for higher wages and Communist activities. The wage earner has known better things. The time of his greatest prosperity was immediately after the war ended. Since then rises in costs of living, the disappearance of his nation's savings, and the income tax, have borne heavily on the wage-earner and his wife. It has been with the greatest difficulty that the Labour Party has managed to postpone wage claims, persuade the trade unions their best interest is to see their country through the crisis of production, and avoid strikes. As a result the number of days lost through strikes has been negligible since the war. Would it be the same with a Conservative Government in power? Naturally, Labour speakers cannot use this argument on a platform. However, it is used in the faint odour of a threat to hold the country to ransom.

The election battle is between two unspoken arguments. Conservatives are better dollar borrowers. Labour is better at maintaining industrial peace. Is the Conservative power to borrow immune against the trouble that would be caused among "Marshall Plan" advisers in Washington if there were strikes and falling output? Is the Labour promise of industrial peace enough to carry the country through without turning for more aid?

Without studying the coming economic crisis this election makes no sense. The Liberal



"Well, Madam, if you have definitely decided not to vote for me, what am I doing nursing your baby?"

party opens its manifesto with a suicidal bravery by saying that times will be bad, they do not expect to be able to make concessions to anyone, and so they are the party of realism and unpleasant truth. The Liberal Party can afford this gallant attitude to the problems of Britain. As the gladiators in the circus greeted Roman Emperors, "Belong about to die, we salute thee," so the Liberal Party is going down with its flag flying in 400 constituencies. Truth will prevail, perhaps, but not at election time, surely.

An attempt has been made to sum up the hidden arguments behind the election that in down the largest number of voters. The battle of the platforms will now be reviewed. It is these arguments that will decide the election—since every party agrees that the floating vote will decide the day, and that he and she have not yet ceased to float.

The Conservatives' strong point is that they have freedom to manoeuvre. They can attack the Government on whatever front they choose, and every different spot to attack. In the first round there was a skirmish on whether we are better off than the Germans. But like most first rounds, that was not quite serious. The election campaign coming to the crucial stages, the Tory fighting points are more cunning.

Deep Scheme

"The ballot is secret" is a theme Conservatives are plugging. They are hinting that their supporters can vote for them although they may work on Socialist nationalised industries, or have their names down on lists for houses being built by Socialist controlled Town Councils. This is a deep scheme. First, there may be some who are really afraid of a vote for the Tory will be known to the Socialists. If Labour wins, or local Socialists, whoever wins, the fact that the information is being spread casts a slur on Labour. It suggests that Socialists cannot be trusted not to use their power to damage political opponents. This is alien to the tradition of British politics.

It must be said at once that there is no evidence to show that known Tories are overlooked in the queues for new houses built under Labour rule. But a few cases where it appears Labour members of Parliament, and Mr. Attlee's name, have had priority treatment, strengthen this piece of Conservative electioneering. Another Conservative attack is on the "wage freeze." They are trying to show that Labour has held down wages in its four and a half years of rule, and that prices have risen, with the result that the working man is worse off. The sharpest cutting edge in this campaign comes from the Daily Express, where Beaver-

brook campaigns for a £6 per week minimum. The paper points to wage claims, such as the railwaymen's, that have been rejected recently.

From the Conservative angle the dangers about this campaign are two. First, most people do not quite believe that Conservatives would grant wage rises, and secondly that the attack takes the Conservatives so far into the enemy country—down among the poorest workers—that they are in danger of being stabbed in the back by their own supporters—the middle class—who have nothing to gain from higher wages for the poorest.

Commonwealth

THE most consistent theme for Conservatives is the "Commonwealth" line—follow by leader Australia and New Zealand, having rid themselves of Socialist Governments, are quoted as throwing off the shackles of tyranny—let's join on the Red, White and Blue banner! And Australia has abandoned petrol rationing after abandoning socialism.

It is generally agreed that this electioneering point is excellent in meetings. When difficulties Conservative candidates can easily pull the other side of the world into the argument. Petrol itself, taken up as an issue for a day or two, is not worth much as a campaign theme. It served Mr. Menzies well in Australia. Most car owners are Conservative voters anyway. If the Conservatives could only get votes from car owners, in Britain they could not hope for victory at this election or the next.

Winston Churchill has wanted to bring foreign affairs into the election and he has succeeded in a startling and dramatic manner. One newspaper's campaign against Britain for not building atom bombs has misfired, but Churchill's imaginative suggestion that President Truman, Marshal Stalin and Britain's vote-catching potentialities. Millions are not satisfied to watch an arms race between Russia and America. Attlee and Bevin do not inspire confidence that the biggest things in foreign relations are being conducted with verve.

On Defensive

THE promise of Churchill putting a cigar at Stalin and talking over the world's problems as equal to equal in the Kremlin is extremely attractive. But it leaves Churchill vulnerable. The American Secretary of State has recently warned that attempts to speak straight to Stalin are doomed to failure and dangerous rebuff. Does Churchill intend to lead us out of step with America? At the obvious failure of the Yalta and Potsdam Conferences with Stalin, which only gave Russia con-

cessions in exchange for nothing. Perhaps these day objections will not counteract the strength of the Churchillian attack.

The Labour Party electioneering experts are, naturally, thrown on the defensive by the ability of the Conservative campaign and the fact that they have the last Government to defend. The points they are campaigning on might be described by a detached observer as a series of glowing versions of what Labour has done and a sifting of dark memories of pre-war seen through a dust-ridden telescope. "Full Employment" is the best point Labour has—because it has really happened! But as a writer it is weakened by the Conservative riposte that two million would have been unemployed if there had been no aid from North America. The Tories are overjoyed to be able to quote Mr. Bevin, in a speech last year, saying exactly that even, of course, was not thinking of the election!

The "Bad Old Days" are Labour's delight. At a recent meeting in Wexham with Ernie Bevin and Lord Alexander, "A.V." of the Admiralty, on the platform. It seemed difficult to speak of anything after

1921—the year Bevin led a dock strike against Churchill.

For pulling at the heartstrings of the housewife there are nothing like a few pumpkins. Labour broadcasters enjoy quoting the prices of food with subsidies in Britain and comparing them with prices in unrationed countries on the continent. But this argument, again, is likely to lash back at them, since there are millions of voters who would rather have no rationing and cheaper beer than equal shares and heavy taxes. So the Labour Party's joy above all joys is to quote Mr. Churchill, but what they quote is Mr. Churchill in 1908. He was a Liberal then.

Vested Interests

DESCRIBING his opponents while electioneering in Dundee he said: "We know what to expect when the Tories return to power—a party of great vested interests, banded together in a formidable confederation, corruption at home, aggression to cover it up, the trickery of tariff juggling, the tyranny of well-fed Party machine; sentiment for the bucketful; patriotism and imperialism by the imperial pint; an open hand at the public exchequer, an open door at the public house; dear food for the million; cheap labour for the millionaire."

(London Express Service)

C. V. R. Thompson
A man with a knife
steals the coach

NEW YORK. THE coach stopped to pick up passengers. No one particularly noticed the wild-eyed stranger who climbed up with them.

Suddenly the driver felt a knife's sharpness in his back. His voice full of menace, the stranger gave the command: "Stop, and get out. I'm taking over."

The driver climbed down. Panicky, the 20 passengers followed him.

Swaying with its speed, the coach in the hands of the stranger, headed south. The driver summoned the sheriff. Soon a posse caught up with the rustler.

No valuables had been taken. They locked him up. All this happened, not on the movie, not 50 years ago, not even in the Wild West.

It happened in full daylight recently in Times Square, the busiest half-acre of ground in the whole of America.

And because of that, New York's police, already under fire for failing to end an ever-increasing crime wave, are getting more critical.

SECURITY as strict as anything in wartime will be maintained at the Virginia shipyards where they have begun building the United States, America's answer to the Queens.

But it is not to foil any Cunard ship. Said designer William Gibbs: "The trouble with Americans is that they tell everything they know. And there is one man who would very much like to know more about this ship—Uncle Joe Stalin. 'I'm not going to oblige him.'"

WALL STREET does not pay as it once did. The world's largest brokerage house, Merrill Lynch, Pierce, Fenner, and Bence, announced that in 1949 its 89 partners and 100 branch offices had earned a mere \$234,000 profit. That is nearly \$400,000 down on 1948.

PREDICTION from scientist Gerald Wendt of life as it will be 50 years from now: Most of our work, and even some of our thinking, will be done by machinery. There will be a 24-hour working week, and the average income will be \$24,000 a year. People will live to be 85 years. Planes will be as cheap as buses. There will be interplanetary rocket ships. People will spend most of their time with sports, recreation, religion, and culture.

SHOW BUSINESS: Hollywood has decided to drop its ban on stars appearing in TV shows. They are afraid TV will produce its own stars who might outshine theirs. Wisecrack over the rows between Rudolph Bing, now director of the Metropolitan Opera, New York, and some of its singers—"He's just throwing their weight around."

BRIDGE-MAHJONG PARTY

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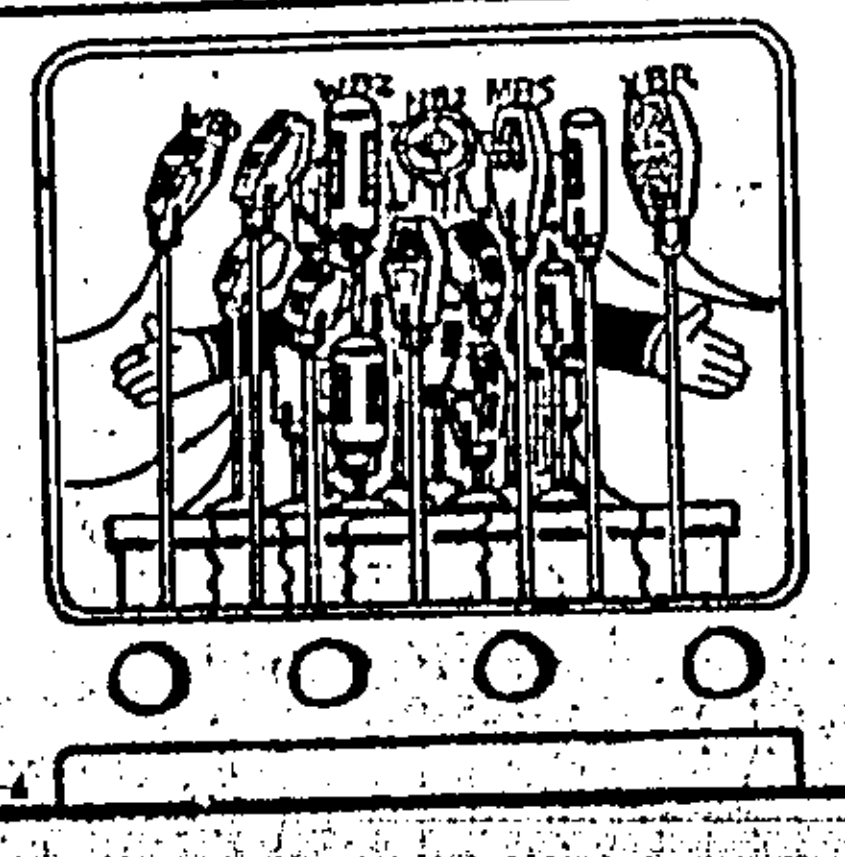
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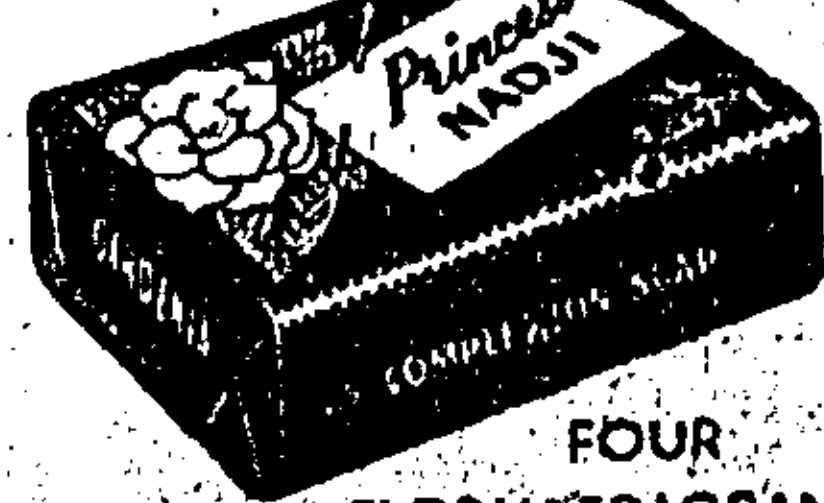
NANCY

Mike Plight



By Ernie Bushmiller

SOAP THAT SPELLS BEAUTY



FOUR FLORAL FRAGRANCES

Sole Agents: NAN KANG CO.

EAST GERMAN LEADER'S ATTACK ON U.S.

Hint Of New Campaign

Berlin, Feb. 22.—American policy in Germany is now "open intervention," the East German Foreign Minister, Herr George Dertinger, alleged in a speech here today.

Herr Dertinger was speaking to the Provisional East German Parliament in answer to the policy speech made by the United States High Commissioner, Mr John J. McCloy, in Stuttgart on February 6.

Men Break Into Atom Centre

London, Feb. 22.—Four men were committed for trial on Wednesday on a charge of attempted theft from one of Britain's best guarded areas, the atomic energy research centre at Harwell.

The four, out through a strong wire fence surrounding the establishment in an attempt to steal lead ingots worth 250 pounds. Security officers patrolling the headquarters of British atomic research caught one man and the others were captured later.

—Associated Press.

Mussolini Papers Found Buried

Milan, Feb. 22.—The diary of Mussolini's mistress, Clara Petacci, written in prison on toilet paper, and official and personal letters of the Duce himself, have been found by the Italian police, usually reliable informants said today.

The discoveries were made in the grounds of the Villa Acquarone, a saloon on the shores of Lake Garda.

It was here in October, 1943, after his rescue by the Germans from Italian arrest, that Mussolini established his "Italian Social Republic." It lasted until April, 1945, when he and Petacci, attempting to flee to Switzerland, were captured and shot by partisans at Dongo, on the edge of Lake Como.

The documents were found in two wooden cases buried in the Villa gardens. The informant said. They added that Petacci's diary and letters exchanged between her and Mussolini formed the main bulk of the discovery. It was believed, however, that an exchange of correspondence between Mussolini and Hitler, dated late in 1943 and throughout 1944, was also uncovered.

The informants said that they could not indicate the contents of the documents.—Reuter.

AIRLINES JUDGMENT

(Continued from Page 1.)

People's Government or the CNAC and are not themselves in possession of the assets," he said.

Dealing with what were the possibilities of injustice that might result from the appointment of a receiver in this case, his Lordship said: "The movable assets of CNAC in Hongkong include planes and equipment which have been valued at US\$20,000,000. To appoint a receiver would mean substantial immobilisation of the airline possibly for a protracted period—with the danger of causing heavy and irreparable loss. Moreover, the issue of sovereign immunity based on the present possession of the assets could be raised again at the trial if it is not decided at this time. If I interfere by appointing a receiver, I may deny the right to raise the question of sovereign immunity at the trial."

His Lordship also dismissed a similar application brought by CAT Inc. in which the third parties were members of CATC.

DEATH OF SIR MAX PEMBERTON

London, Feb. 22.—The "school-boy" best-seller, Sir Max Pemberton, died at his home today aged 86. He had been ill since 1945.

Journalist, novelist, playwright, motor racing pioneer, crime "fan" and oarsman, he was the hero of generations of boys. Among his 30 books for boys, three—"The Iron First," "The Virgin Forest" and "The Impregnable City"—were best sellers.—Reuter.

Burned In Bed

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—Mrs. Roland S. Morris, 70-year-old widow of the former U.S. Ambassador to Japan, was killed today when her bed caught fire.—Associated Press.

They Take The Floor



They prefer the Western way. At a fancy dress ball in their Nigerian costume, Mr Steven Adepegar and cousin Achuwumi Odunukwe. (London Express Service.)

MR PEARSON'S REVIEW

Peril In Communist Threat To Asia

Ottawa, Feb. 22.—The External Affairs Minister, Mr Lester Pearson, told Parliament today that Communist expansion in Asia was the most serious threat to the world.

Mr Pearson, who has just returned from Asia, told a packed Chamber: "No one can be certain what will happen."

Liberals Make Offer

London, Feb. 22.—Britain's Liberal Party in an eve of poll statement tonight said that if the Socialists were unable after the Election to form a Government without Liberal support, Liberals would back a Socialist minority Government provided Labour would give up the nationalisation of industry.

The Liberals, who are the main third party, added that they themselves would not shirk the responsibility of forming a minority Government if that situation were to arise.

Mr Clement Davies, Liberal leader, outlining the Party's policy to the hydrogen and atom bomb tonight, said that the first step was to ban the use of these bombs in the same way as the use of poison gas was banned.—Reuter.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



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"If you're fed up writing so many checks every month, why not arrange with the bank so I can write them? I love to write!"

WORLD "PEACE" TALK BEHIND IRON CURTAIN

Geneva, Feb. 22.—Dr Franklin Fry, President of the United Lutheran Church of America, stated in an interview today that the United States Government should give the most solemn undertaking to the world that it would never be the first to use the hydrogen bomb.

Dr Fry, Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the World Council of Churches, which is meeting here, added: "We have the firm impression that at least one other nation is experimenting with this ghastly weapon. If this is true—as it very well may be—it would be too dangerous for a nation not to equip itself in the same way."

"I hope, with all my heart—and I am sure that this is the feeling of all true Christians in the United States—that the United States will never be the first to use the hydrogen bomb."

Dr Fry urged that hope for a meeting between the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union should never be abandoned. "Though we may think that we have been rebuffed many times by the Soviet Union," he said, "we should always try to seek for an agreement on the restriction of armaments and control of atomic weapons."—Reuter.

CZECH DOCTRINE

Prague, Feb. 22.—America's "hypocritical and cynical atom bomb propaganda"—was a failure in the Eastern democracies, Dr Vladimir Clementis, Czechoslovak Foreign Minister, declared today.

The American people did not want war but "American leaders have adopted a naive and dangerous doctrine of world hegemony."

Making his first speech since returning from the United States where he led his country's delegation to the United Nations Assembly, Dr Clementis told the Czechoslovak National Assembly that the present Communist "peace drive" was backed by "the whole power of world Socialism now growing steadily in strength."

Before the Assembly were 4,567 peace resolutions sent from rallies throughout Czechoslovakia in the past few weeks. Today's resolution called for an end to "imperialist warmongering" and agreement by the Great Powers within the United Nations to end world tension.

Prague and Budapest Radios today both reported that their National Assemblies had endorsed the "world peace movement."

The Bulgarian and Rumanian Parliaments have already done so.—Reuter.

ELECTION DISQUIET IN KENYA

Nairobi, Kenya, Feb. 22.—The East African Indian National Congress has protested against attempts by European communities in Kenya and Tanganyika to "suppress the legitimate rights of non-European races."

The Executive Committee of the Congress passed a resolution welcoming proposals by the Tanganyika Government for changes in the Constitution of the territory.

The Committee particularly welcomed plans for eventually giving equal unofficial representation in the Legislature to Africans and non-Africans, and for non-Africans electing a common electoral roll of Europeans and Asians.

"This Committee fervently hopes that the Tanganyika Government will not yield to the clamour of a small European community and that it will not abandon these progressive proposals," the resolution said.

A series of meetings in the Kenya highlands, arranged by the European Electors' Union at the request of European settlers in Tanganyika, recently opposed the new plan.

Speakers said that, with large African and Indian populations in Tanganyika, it was possible under the proposed system that not a single European would be elected to the Legislature.—Reuter.

Hignett Faces New Trial

London, Feb. 22.—Norman Hignett, former solicitor and coroner for Chelsea, Sussex, who was sent to prison in December for four-year term for fraudulent conversion, faces a new trial next month.

The Court of Appeal yesterday quashed his four-year sentence but upheld another sentence of nine months for obtaining credit by fraud, which Hignett must serve.

A second indictment remained on the file and Hignett must be tried on it at the next Assizes.—Reuter.

Well Acted Comedy

"George & Margaret" Well Received

"George and Margaret," Gerald Savory's comedy, was presented by the Garrison Players at the Senmen's Institute theatre last night, before a receptive audience.

It is a comedy spun around the web of two people who never—well anyhow infrequently, turn up when invited to dinner, lunch or merely tea. A light comedy with a trivial plot and not a few witty lines sprinkled in its three Acts.

As a play, it is by no means water-tight and there are few laughs which dullness may creep or amusement creep out, but these have been well filled in with excellent production and first-rate acting. What there is to please and that is a great deal, is acted as pleasantly as possible.

Elizabeth Williams illustrates her power to make the severe perfectly charming without sacrificing the author's intentions, as a contrast Cynthia Stenhouse as Frankie makes the most of her opportunities in her own quiet way and yet shines in her solo scenes. Dennis Stephenson contrives to have a devilish cunning resemblance to the Malcolm of my imagination.

Never was such an ardent young pianist so unable to put his principles into practice as is Roger. Bryce Ramsden is an actor new to the Garrison Players but he gives a performance, charming, yet insistent, though varied in such a way as would credit anyone. Peter Bird's Dudley is as buoyant a cameo as any could wish for and off set by the childish pomposity of Claude as rendered by Michael Burgess and the pert tenacity of Gladys competently portrayed by Harriette Jenkins. Doris Barron makes an agile debut to the Hongkong stage. Eric Hodgkins undoubtedly knew what he was doing when he set about the production of this play, and he and his back-stage minions have achieved a satisfying result.—Michael Sydenham.

BRITONS KILLED IN LANDSLIDE

Salisbury, Feb. 22.—No news has yet been received from a car party ploughing through flooded country to a remote Southern Rhodesian officials were swept to their deaths by a landslide four days ago.

They were members of a party surveying the Kariba electric scheme and news of the disaster was brought by a European who descended the river by boat to a police post.

The victims were E. Bellamy and H. Liers of the Irrigation Department, C. P. Ward of the Hydro-electric Power Commission, and A. E. Reid of the Southern Rhodesia Audit Department.—Reuter.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T. 6. Hong Kong Calling: 6.02. "A Bouquet of Roses": 6.20. "A Short Organ Recital" by Fernando Germani: 6.30. "La Demi-Heure Française (Studio)": 7. World News and News Analysis (London Relay): 7.15. Sports Review (Studio): 7.30. "Take it from here" with Joy Hinchey Bentley and Jimmy Edwards (BBCRS): 8. "From the Editorials": London Relay: 8.10. "Dancing Time" with Tommy Dorsey and his Orchestra: 8.40. "At the Opera": "Carmen" (BBCRS): 9. "With Friends Chorus and Orchestral": "The Song of the Sea": 9.20. "Underground London": Places of Interest (London Relay): 10.15. "Four introduced by Wynford Vaughan Thomas (BBCRS)": 10.30. "Newsworld (London Relay)": 10.35. "Weather Report": 11. "Book Talk by Aileen Dekker (Studio)": 10.35. "Music in London": 11. "World News and Home News": 11.30. "Save the King": 11.30. Close down.

SHANGRILA BALL

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Chiu Yen-yee — Pipa Solo "Downfall Of Chu".
Miss Joyce Nosbitt — (Waltz "Because")
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Thomas Leo — ("Apalachicola")
Mr. John Van David — Impersonation of Danny Kaye.
and
Carmenita Popita — "The Bolivian Bombshell".
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Reuter.

Asmara Rioting: 30 Dead

Asmara, Feb. 22.—Casualties in the two-day disorders in and around Asmara today reached 30 dead and 130 wounded.

As British tanks moved in to the Christian-Muslim disorder areas, the United Nations Commission meeting here appealed to the population to stop violence.

The Commission's statement said that disorders would not influence its work—a study of political, social and economic problems in Eritrea.

The British authorities here declared today that they would "in no circumstances" request the aid of the small detachment of American communications troops stationed here.

The American detachment was reported to have taken part in its own initiative in quelling yesterday's riots.

TANKS INTERVENE

Today's British statement said that American military police troops had patrolled the streets of Asmara to pick up any soldiers who "happened to be near the scene of the disturbances."

British troops, supported by tanks, intervened again today to put down scattered rioting which flared up on the outskirts of Asmara.

A 7 p.m. to 5 a.m. curfew was clamped down on villages and markets in the area.

The Secretary-General of the seven parties making up the Eritrean "independence bloc" today sought an urgent audience with the United Nations Commission, who received them immediately. They lodged a strong complaint and asked that action be taken to end the clashes.—Reuter.

SUBTLE PRESS GAG BY PERON

Buenos Aires, Feb. 22.—A Peron Government committee today recommended that the once-mighty newspaper, La Prensa, already a third of its former size, be cut off from its imported newsprint supplies.

The committee, a Congressional group investigating alleged anti-Argentine activities, which last November carried out a search of La Prensa's offices, alleged today that the newspaper had violated the law governing the keeping of accounts.

La Prensa, like La Nacion, both his independent papers frequently critical of the Peron regime, were cut from a normal 30 to 40 pages down to 12 pages last March after the Government has confiscated all newsprint to assure that newly established pro-Peron publications would be adequately supplied.—Reuter.

PERON'S TRIUMPH

Buenos Aires, Feb. 22.—Only essential public services will function in Buenos Aires on Friday, when work stops to celebrate the decisive election triumph of the President, General Juan Peron, four years ago.

A rally will be addressed by General Peron, his wife, Senora Eva Peron, and other leaders.

Railways and other transport services will make a "token stoppage" of 10 minutes. Towns in the neighbourhood of the capital will not be affected by the stoppage.—Reuter.

Chasing Florida Fish



The perennial Gertrude Lawrence—the record says she will be 52 in July—puts on check shirt and polka-dotted sun-hat, joins husband Richard Aldrich in a fishing trip at Florida's Naples Beach. She had just come from Hollywood, had been making the film version of Tennessee Williams's "The Glass Menagerie."—(London Express Service).

Dockers Spurred By Reds To Stop U.S. Arms Shipments

London, Feb. 22.—Communist-led dock workers' organisations in several European countries are moving to prevent American arms shipments under the Atlantic Pact programme. The position in the principal affected centres has been reported by Reuter correspondents as follows:

WANTS AID TO TRACE WESTERLING

Djakarta, Feb. 22.—Indonesia has asked Britain for help following reports that Captain "Turco" Westerling, rebel leader of the "Army of the Heavenly Host" has fled to Singapore, according to the Indonesian news agency, Antara, quoting official circles.

Those circles added that Britain "would take any measures necessary to aid the United States of Indonesia."

But British Embassy officials said tonight that they had told Indonesia that they could not trace Westerling or his family in Singapore. No other matters concerning Westerling were discussed, they added.

Informal quarters said that it was still uncertain whether Westerling had left Indonesia.

Westerling's rebel army on January 23 captured the town of Bandung, West Java, from the Indonesian Republican garrison and held it for a few hours.—Reuter.

GBS STILL A MONEY-MAKER

New York, Feb. 23.—George Bernard Shaw, at 83, is believed to be making more money at present than other playwrights in the world, mostly from two current Broadway hits.

"The Devil's Disciple" took in jointly with "Caesar and Cleopatra" the sum of \$130,000 (about £40,428) when they ran concurrently for two weeks.

The author's 10 percent royalties should bring him about £4,642 from the fortnight's performances.—Associated Press.

London-Sydney Constellations

London, Feb. 22.—Qantas Empire Airways announced today that they are to run regular Constellation services through Colombo on the Sydney-London route.

The first plane on the new route is due to leave Sydney on March 11 and go via Singapore, Bombay, Karachi, Cairo, Rome and London. The present planes are for one service every four weeks via Colombo.—Reuter.

Britain Expected To Be Self-Supporting In Two Years' Time

Washington, Feb. 22.—The Marshall Plan chief, Mr Paul Hoffman, said today that both the British Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, and the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Stafford Cripps, had told him that they expect Britain to be on a self-supporting basis by 1952 when the Marshall Plan ends.

Mr Hoffman was giving evidence in the Senate on his request for a new appropriation of \$2,950,000,000 for the third year of European recovery aid.

His statement was made in response to a question from the Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Mr Tom Connally, who asked whether the nations of Europe truly realised that aid would end in 1952.

Second Mona Lisa Found

New York, Feb. 22.—A second painting of the Mona Lisa by Leonardo da Vinci, valued at \$1,000,000, has been discovered, Dr Thomas M. Judson said today.

The owners of the painting said it was entrusted by Marie Antoinette to one of their ancestors, who brought it to this country 153 years ago.

Dr Judson, who identified himself as an archaeologist, art expert and former curator of the Cleopatra collection of the Vatican, said he had authenticated the painting by X-rays, infra-red photographs and other laboratory tests.

"This painting, in my opinion, is by the hand of Leonardo da Vinci and was the one he had begun and worked upon while Francis was doing the Louvre pleasure," Dr Judson said. "This Mona Lisa shows a younger woman than the Louvre version."

Dr Judson said he thought the painting was done not later than 1500, and said the strokes were left-handed.

The Encyclopaedia Britannica says: "Leonardo da Vinci appears to have been left-handed. All the best of his drawings are shaded downward from the left to the right, which would be characteristic of a left-handed man."

The painting is owned by Dr Ambrose W. Vernon of Hanover, New Hampshire, and his brother's widow, Mrs Alice Vernon. The Vernons said the painting was brought to the United States from France by William Henry Vernon, and that it had been entrusted to him by Marie Antoinette. Vernon, a young art collector, returned to his country in 1787 with the painting, they said, and since that time the picture has been in the family's possession.—United Press.

Spellman Due In Rome

Vatican City, Feb. 22.—Cardinal Spellman, Archbishop of New York, is expected to discuss the possibility of a permanent United States Legation to the Holy See with the Pope next month.

The Cardinal is due in Rome on March 1 on a Holy Year pilgrimage.

American Catholics are known to favour permanent representation at the Vatican in place of the personal Presidential envoy system, which came temporarily to an end last month with the resignation of President Truman's personal Ambassador, Mr Myron C. Taylor.

Some American Protestants, on the other hand, have demanded that United States representation to the Holy See should be ended completely.—Reuter.

Earlier, Mr Hoffman's assistant, Mr Richard Bissell, told the Senate Committee that Britain expected shortly to be free of United States crude oil imports, and that she expected to be getting along on her own Eastern and Caribbean production by 1952.

Mr Bissell was replying to Mr Henry Lodge, Republican Senator who suggested that Britain might close her dollar gap if she did not have to pay for imports of United States oil.

Mr Lodge said that the American oil industry was now sending oil worth \$600,000,000 to Britain each year, and he objected to what he called "the American taxpayers' subsidy" to pay for this by Marshall aid.

Mr Hoffman estimated that if Britain did not buy any American oil—which she need—her dollar gap would still be only about 10 percent less.

MAJOR QUESTION

One of the major questions, he said, was the "dollar content" of Sterling oil. This often represented about 75 cents in each dollar's worth of oil produced in some British fields because royalties and special equipment cost dollars.

In the House of Representatives, Mr Averett Harriman, roving Marshall Plan ambassador, told the Foreign Affairs Committee that Europe could never achieve self-support if Marshall Aid were cut too much.

"The programme would shift from recovery to mere relief," he said when testifying on proposed allocations for the third year of Marshall Aid.

"We are concerned with the future of 275,000,000 people," he said. "We are concerned with an area whose industrial output is second only to ours and far exceeds that of the Soviet Union and all its satellites."

Mr Harriman said that the strengthening of political stability and democracy throughout Western Europe had been demonstrated in one national election after the other.

Communism had experienced its most notable setback in the European trade union movement.

The labour movements in Italy and France had been captured by the Communists before the Marshall Plan took shape, and now their control was losing its grip.

In other countries like Austria, Belgium and Norway, where Communists had once been strong, their influence, in organised labour had diminished to insignificance.

NO DOLE WANTED

A particularly significant feature of Europe's economic efforts, Mr Harriman said, was the "very large share" of Europe's total economic resources going into investment rather than current consumption.

"If we have reasonable breaks—and I am an optimist—we will find Europe generally to be self-sustaining by 1952," he added.

"The attitude of European governments is not to depend on a dole. The British people do not like depending on us, and that is true of other governments,"—Reuter.

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1626
"It's so hard to realise... my own little girl old
enough to trap a man!"

CHECK YOUR KNOWLEDGE

Answers:
1. The science of the study of
fossilised substances. 2. Bel-
gium. 3. Norway. 4. In the
northern tip of Ireland. It con-
sists of numerous columns of
basalt rising from a bay. 5.
Russia, China and Canada. 6.
Animal.

Something Interesting: Solution

Green must have six court
cards and eight cards which are
not court cards.
For 2 x 14 = 28
Pink has a similar hand
No White (the three) has (inferior)
to report that his series of the
deck contains none of the court
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